

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 5, and 11 have been amended without adding new matter. Claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter.

All of the claims have been rejected as being anticipated by GORINGE et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 1 and 5 now recite receiving link information during flooding. Although the background section of GORINGE et al. mentions sharing data throughout a network by flooding in paragraph 7, GORINGE et al. find notifications using flooding as being problematic. Thus, GORINGE et al. have devised a system to obtain link state data at a central location via querying. *See* for example, paragraphs 23, 29, and 33. Such a system is somewhat similar to the embodiment described in applicant's specification with respect to Figs. 9 and 10. However, receiving the data at a central location during flooding is not taught or suggested by GORINGE et al. In fact, it is believed that GORINGE et al. actually teaches away from centrally collecting data during flooding because of the noted problems of flooding, namely, interfering with network efficiency.

Thus, for at least these reasons it is requested that the examiner indicate the allowability of claims 1 and 5.

Claims 5 and 11 recite connectivity including at least partial adjacency. As described in paragraph 24 of the specification, adjacency is a special relationship between active neighbors. GORINGE et al. is silent with respect to such a relationship. Moreover, in view of GORINGE et al.'s negative view on flooding, it is submitted that GORINGE et al. would not use such a relationship, as it would create more network traffic.

Thus, for at least these reasons it is requested that the examiner indicate the allowability of claims 5 and 11.

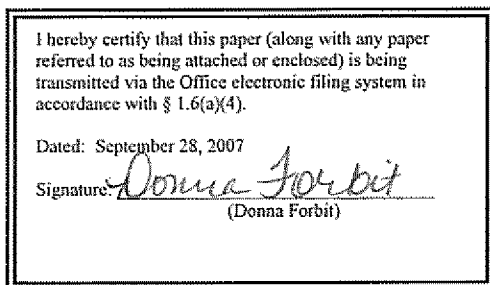
Dependent claims 4, 8 – 10, and 12 - 18 are also believed to recite further patentable subject matter of the invention and therefore are also believed allowable over the prior art. As

such, allowance of the dependent claims is deemed proper for at least the same reasons noted for the independent claims, in addition to reasons related to their own recitations. For example, claims 12 and 13 recite specific configurations (interface and sub-interface) that enable the system to maintain discrete link state databases. *See* paragraphs 30 and 33. No such configuration is taught or suggested by the applied reference. Nor does the Examiner address these features in the Official Action. Moreover, as seen in Fig. 4 of GORINGE et al., it appears that a single database 216 (as opposed to discrete databases) is employed. Claims 14 and 15 further define the adjacency relationship. Such features are not discussed in the Official Action and appear to be missing from GORINGE et al. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all of the claims in the present application.

The above amendments have been presented merely for the purpose of clarification, and not to overcome the applied prior art. Accordingly, no estoppel is deemed to result from any of the present amendments.

In view of the above, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1078, under Order No. 10030378-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.



Respectfully submitted,

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